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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR

1961



J.G.S.TURNER,
Medical Officer of Health.



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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1961

MR. R.C.H.JONES

Chairman

MR. J.C.WAKEFORD

Chairman of the Council

MR. C.M.T.FOLLETT

Vice Chairman of the Council

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MR. S.WARNE

MR. E.J.MARTIN

MR. H.C.WILLIAMS

MR. W.T.R.OLD

MR. W.WINDLE

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of
St. Austell

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the
Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for
the year 1961.

The vital records are satisfactory
and for the fourth year in succession the infant mortality rate has been
below the national rate. The still birth rate and the perinatal death rate,
which are closely related, are still much too high.

I wish to record my thanks to
Mr. Watts, and his staff, and to Mr. King and Mr. Mules, to all of whom I
am indebted for parts of this report.

I wish also to thank Members of the
Public Health Committee for continued interest and support.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

J.G.S. TURNER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	18,379
Population	24,840
Number of Inhabited Houses.	8,672
Rateable Value.	£292,055
Product of Penny Rate	£1,177

<u>Live Births</u>	M	F	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate 1,000 Population</u>	
				<u>St. Austell</u>	<u>England &</u>
				<u>U.D.C.</u>	<u>Wales</u>
Legitimate	159	156	315	13.3	
Illegitimate	7	9	16		
Rate corrected for comparison with other areas				14.5	17.4
<u>Illegitimate births per cent of total live births</u>				4.8%	
<u>Still Births</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live & Still Births</u>	
Legitimate	9	8	17	51.6	18.7
Illegitimate	1	0	1		
Total Live & Still Births	176	173	349		
<u>Infant Deaths</u>					
Legitimate	6	1	7		
Illegitimate	0	0	0		
Rate per 1,000 total live births				21.1	21.4
Rate per 1,000 total legitimate births				22.2	-
Rate per 1,000 total illegitimate births				0.0	-
<u>Neo-natal rate</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live Births</u>	
Infant deaths under 4 weeks	4	1	5	15.1	15.5
<u>Early Neo-natal rate</u>					
Infant deaths under 1 week	3	1	4	12.6	13.7
<u>Peri-natal rate</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live & Still Births</u>	
Still births & deaths under 1 week	13	9	22	63.0	32.2
<u>Maternal Mortality</u>	0	1	1	0.29	0.33
<u>Deaths (all ages & causes)</u>				<u>Rate per 1,000 population</u>	
Deaths (all ages & causes)	176	192	368	14.8	
Corrected for comparison with other areas				11.8	12.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following is an abbreviated list of the causes of death of persons of all ages :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis-respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis-other	1	0	1
3. Syphilitis Disease	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	1	0	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	3	0	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	8	2	10
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	6	6
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	4	4
14. Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasm	8	15	23
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	2	2
16. Diabetes	1	2	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	28	43	71
18. Coronary disease, angina	37	19	56
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	2	4
20. Other heart disease	32	55	87
21. Other circulatory disease	5	2	7
22. Influenza	2	3	5
23. Pneumonia	8	6	14
24. Bronchitis	5	1	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0	1
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	0	0	0
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	3	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0	0
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	0	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	1	0	1
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	14	17	31
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	3	10
34. All other accidents	5	3	8
35. Suicide	3	1	4
36. Homicide & operations of war	0	0	0
<hr/>			
All causes		176	192
			368

Percentage contribution of principal causes of death

	<u>St. Austell</u>		<u>Eng. & Wales</u>
	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960 figs.</u>
			<u>(Latest available)</u>
Tuberculosis	0.6	1.1	0.6
Malignant disease	11.4	13.0	18.5
Vascular lesions of Central nervous system	17.1	19.3	14.5
Diseases of Circulatory System	46.9	41.9	37.9
" " Respiratory System	5.0	8.9	10.9
" " Digestive System	2.8	1.2	3.0
" " Genito urinary system	1.2	1.1	2.0
Accidents, violence etc.	3.2	6.6	4.4

Apart from respiratory and genito urinary diseases, where the local experience is very favourable, there is little difference from the national figures. The excess of deaths due to disease of the circulatory system is probably related to the larger number of old people in Cornwall. There has been a sharp increase in death due to lung cancer.

The following short table gives the percentage distribution of deaths in various age groups.

<u>Age Group at Death</u>	<u>Percentage dying in each age group</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
0 - 1 year	3.4	0.5
1 - 59 years	16.8	13.8
60 - 69 years	18.6	16.9
70 - 79 years	29.8	30.7
80 - 89 years	25.8	29.6
90 - 99 years	5.6	8.4
<u>Average age at Death</u>		
Males	70.1	
Females	73.6	

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Age in Weeks</u>						<u>Total</u>
	<u>-1</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>-4</u>	<u>-5</u>	<u>-52</u>	
Premature	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Abnormality	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Broncho Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Intra Cranial Haemorrhage	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	4	0	1	0	1	1	7

The following table shows the birth, still birth, and infant mortality rates over the past 30 years.

	<u>Birth rate</u> <u>Uncorrected</u>	<u>Still Birth</u> <u>rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality</u> <u>Rate</u>
1932-41	10.5 (14.7)	46.1 (40)	59.0 (58.5)
1942-51	14.3 (17.0)	33.0 (27)	36.0 (43.0)
1952-61	14.1 (16.0)	32.9 (22)	19.3 (23.9)

The figures in brackets are those for the United Kingdom.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

AREA - (in acres) 18,379

The District is mixed Urban and Rural, the main aggregations of population being in St. Austell town, Mevagissey, St. Blazey and Par. Par and Charlestown are ports dealing with the China Clay trade, while Mevagissey deals with the fishing trade. The whole area is popular as a seaside resort and the population is greatly increased during the summer months.

POPULATION - 24,840

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES

According to the Rate Book, the number of inhabited houses in the district was 8,672, the rateable value being £292,055 which gives £1,177 penny rate.

CLIMATE

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>RAINFALL, 1961</u>	<u>MONTHLY AVERAGE FROM 1916 - 1950</u>
	January	7.64	5.61
	February	4.23	4.08
	March	0.33	3.53
	April	5.77	2.93
	May	0.99	3.06
	June	1.24	2.04
	July	2.69	3.39
	August	3.10	3.56
	September	3.23	3.55
	October	7.72	5.07
	November	2.60	5.57
	December	4.73	5.58
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		44.27	47.97
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Monthly average		3.69	3.96
Number of wet days		187	-

SECTION B.

GENERAL DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Medical Officer of Health

J. G. S. Turner, M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Area Health Office,
Moorland Road,
ST. AUSTELL.
Telephone - St. Austell
2206

2. Senior Public Health Inspector

C. H. Watts, C.R.San.I., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

3. Additional Public Health Inspectors

L. H. Sturtridge, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

C. F. Quantrell, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.
Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These were available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary where all material for investigation was sent.

PROPHYLACTICS

Supplies of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus prophylactics were available in various combinations. Poliomyelitis vaccine became available in adequate amounts. Supplies were available to Medical Practitioners at the Area Health Office, St. Austell, on request.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This service is controlled with other areas east of Truro from Bodmin. There has been no change in the method of obtaining help and the service maintained its high efficiency.

NURSING AND OTHER SERVICES IN THE HOME

These have worked well in spite of staff shortage, particularly of mid-wives, the establishment was as follows :-

(contd).

	District Nurse Midwife Health Visitor	Health Visitor (Full-Time)	General Nurse & Midwife	Total
Mevagissey	1	-	-	1
St. Blazey & Tywardreath	3	-	-	3
St. Austell & Treverbyn	2	3	3	8

All Nurses, as circumstances permit, are sent for further training or for practical post-certificate courses.

DOMICILLARY MIDWIFERY

Approximately 60% of all births occur at home and provided the home conditions are good and that difficulties are unlikely to arise, this is the best place.

CARE AND AFTER CARE

Children and old people discharged from hospital are followed up until fit.

ANTE AND POST-NATAL CARE

An ante-natal clinic was held weekly at Moorland Road, by a Specialist Obstetrician. In addition a weekly clinic was held by midwives. Relaxation classes have been established at Par, and in St. Austell. A Mother's club has been established in St. Austell and had very successful meetings.

INFANT CHILD WELFARE

Clinics are held fortnightly at St. Austell, at Bethel and at Par. The attendances averaged 26.0, 35.0 and 38.0 respectively. Emphasis is placed on health education.

DOMESTIC SERVICE

A total of 128 persons were helped of whom 17 were maternity cases. Many of the cases helped are old people, who without help would be unable to stay in their own homes.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE

With the co-operation of voluntary workers and of the County Welfare Department, 45 meals were delivered each week on four separate days.

The rest room is open for three afternoons each week and if suitable permanent premises could be obtained this service could be extended. In addition to helping tired elderly shoppers the centre provides a room where friendless old people may meet.

The Chiropody service has met all demands.

HOSPITALS

The only hospital in the area is the St. Austell and District Hospital which deals with general medical and surgical cases. Cases requiring further examination and special treatment are sent to the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. Maternity cases go to Redruth and infectious diseases requiring isolation treatment are sent to the Isolation Hospital at Truro. Cases of tuberculosis and other chest conditions are admitted to Tehidy where accommodation is now more than adequate. The construction of a maternity block for the new hospital has been approved and building should begin early in 1963.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) Clinics held at Moorland Road are as follows :-

Ante-natal and Gynaecology	Every Monday
Orthopaedic	Every Tuesday
Child Welfare	First, Third & Fifth Wednesday of each month.
Speech Therapy	Every Wednesday
E. N. T.	As required
Dental	Daily
Child Guidance	Second & Fourth Wednesday of each month.
Pyschiatric	Tuesday afternoons
Family Planning	Fourth Friday evening & second Monday Afternoon.

(b) Clinics held at the Hospital

General Medical & Surgical	Daily
Orthopaedic	Monday-fore-noon
Venereal Diseases	Tuesday afternoons
Tuberculosis	Monday afternoon
Skin Clinic	Thursday mornings

SECTION C.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

WATER

Consumer demands for water were adequately met in all parts of the district.

Bacteriological examinations have been made regularly on both raw and treated water from all sources, and were generally found to be satisfactory. Six samples are taken weekly.

The water supply in the district is soft and the high silica content provides a natural check on plumbo-solvency. Lead pipes are prohibited on drinking supplies, plastic or copper tubing being the standard materials used throughout the district.

Approximately 97% of the houses in the district have a piped water supply, and most have water indoors. During the year mains were laid at Trethowel, Scredda, the Mount, Stenalees, Vicarage Lane (Mevagissey), and Lamellyn Lane, with additions at Carlyon Bay. Water from the new Fowey River Scheme was taken into supply during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewers were laid at Scredda and Tregrehan and the Ruddlemoor Scheme was completed.

DISINFECTION

Disinfection has been carried out as required and a total of 12 houses were disinfected during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

This service was well maintained throughout the year. The work was done as follows :-

a) Private Dwellings

332 Treatments were carried out free of charge to the householder.

b) Business Premises

143 Treatments were carried out and the cost charged to the firms concerned. Most occupiers of these premises have agreement with the Local Authority for regular treatments.

(c) Sewers

The twice yearly baiting of sewers was carried out in April and November. The sewers were found to be in a very satisfactory condition. These treatments were administered under the 'Block Control' System as advised by the Ministry's Pest Officer in the interest of economy.

(d) Refuse Disposal Works

These were regularly surveyed and treatments carried out as required.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This activity is under the supervision of the Surveyor. A Weekly refuse collection is in operation throughout the Urban Area, but in ~~certain~~ very congested places in Mevagissey, where there is no storage accommodation, collections are made three times a week. The refuse is disposed of at tips at Mevagissey, Sawles Road, and Par, and little or no nuisance is caused.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Urban District is moderately well served with conveniences, which are supervised by the Surveyor's Staff. A twice daily cleansing service is maintained in the town area and at Par and Mevagissey during the summer months.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Details of applicants were as follows :-

Number without separate houses	425
Number of families with separate homes	
A. Living in unfit houses	70
B. Living in over occupied houses	156
	<u>651</u>

Applications from young people without separate homes heavily outweigh all other applications and overcrowding through the occupation of reasonably fit houses by two or more families is a major problem. Types required are as follows :-

1 Bedroom Type	140
2 Bedroom Type	400
3 Bedroom Type	96
4 Bedroom Type	15
	<u>651</u>

It is again emphasised that the housing shortage in the area is even greater than reflected in the Councils waiting list as owing to the rise in the cost of new houses and the consequential high rentals, many people prefer to remain in unsatisfactory cottages where, however, the rent is controlled and indeed in many instances abnormally low.

The Council owns 1,880 houses and development is still proceeding.

Details of house construction in the area during 1960 were as follows :-

Dwellings erected by the Council	33
Dwellings erected by private enterprise	109

16 Houses were in course of construction by the Council, and 135 by private enterprise.

(N.B. Many families although not overcrowded in a statutory sense are living under unsatisfactory conditions in over occupied houses).

SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year, 55 persons, comprising 21 families living in unfit houses were rehoused by the Council. 25% of the dwellings allocated by the Council were let to Slum Clearance tenants.

25 Houses were represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation and 5 Clearance Orders, 2 Closing Orders, and 5 Demolition Orders were made. Five undertakings not to use were accepted.

HOUSING FOR OLD PEOPLE

The opposition to entering the new homes provided by the County Council is slowly disappearing. These new homes are smaller in size than the old workhouses, they are vastly more comfortable, and they respect human rights. As this has happened it has uncovered a need which was not known previously to exist. The same need has been found for the provision of small homes for those who prefer to be independent.

I am convinced that a generous provision of such houses is necessary throughout the district and that the need is best satisfied by providing a variety of housing types, with a warden service.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MEAT

The daily visits by your Inspectors to the licensed slaughterhouses within the district, for the purpose of meat inspection, continued throughout the year. In order to maintain 100% meat inspection service your inspectors found it necessary to work late evenings and Sundays.

A large percentage of the animals slaughtered was for export to other towns and to the London Market.

As in previous years it is pleasing to note that the butchers in the Urban Area are still eager to deal in the best grades of meat. Consequently the percentage of condemnations of unsound meat during the year was low.

The following table summarises the results of meat inspection.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2184	281	531	5572	7575
Number Inspected	2184	281	531	5572	7575
<u>All diseases except T.B.</u>					
(1) Whole carcasses condemned	4	5	3	4	6
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	447		1	29	129
Percentage of number insp. affected with diseases other than T.B.	18.5%		0.75%	0.59%	1.77%
<u>T.B. Only</u>					
(1) Whole carcass condemned	-	1	-	-	1
(2) Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	-	-	71
Percentage of number insp. affected with T.B.	0.05%	0.71%	-	-	0.95%

SECTION E. (Contd)

ICE-CREAM

Premises at which Ice-cream is manufactured and retailed, received continued attention by the Health Inspectors during the year. Collection of samples was maintained during the season and these were submitted to the Methylene Blue Reduction Test at the Pathological Department, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro in accordance with with Ministry of Health Testing and Advisory Scheme.

The results of these tests are shown below :-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	25
2	5
3	0
4	0

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over

Infectious and Other Diseases

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received :-

	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 population</u>		
		<u>St. Austell</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>	
	1961	1960	1961	1961
Whooping Cough	13	0.13	0.52	0.53
Measles	95	0.04	3.83	16.5
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0.04	0.04	-
Meningitis (cerebro spinal)	1	0.04	0.0	0.01
Acute Pneumonia	2	0.08	0.0	0.4
Encephalitis	1	0.04	0.0	0.0
Acute rheumatism	1	0.04	0.0	0.0

Two additions to the above, mumps and german measles have been prevalent in small scattered outbreaks. Influenza was epidemic in a mild form during December.

In the U.K. Poliomyelitis was more prevalent than in 1960 and we were fortunate to have no cases.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The table shown below gives by year of birth the number of persons who were immunised.

	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1952-56	1947-51	Total
Primary	75	204	36	18	9	35	13	398
Booster					2	246	86	334

An attempt is being made to have all children immunised against tetanus. As tetanus antigen only became available in 1955, this means a greatly extended programme in the schools. It is considered well worth while to avoid unpleasant symptoms which may arise should it be necessary to give anti-tetanus serum.

The level of protection against diphtheria is still much too low.

POLIOMYELITIS

Vaccine was available in quantity until towards the end of the year when it was proposed to introduce the new oral or Sabin vaccine.

Over sixthousand seven hundred people aged 0-40 years have completed a course of immunisation. The response in those over 20 years has been poor.

SMALLPOX

A total of 151 primary vaccinations and 26 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year. Approximately one third of the babies born in the area during the year were vaccinated.

TUBERCULOSIS

The total number of cases in the register at the 31st December, 1961 was as follows :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Male	87 (82)	9 (8)
Female	48 (55)	18 (18)
Total	135 (137)	27 (26)

Figures for 1960 are given in brackets.

The table given below shows the age and sex distribution of new cases and of deaths during 1961.

Age Group	<u>New Cases</u>						<u>Deaths</u>					
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 - 14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 24	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 - 44	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 - 64	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Over 64	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	11	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0

In addition to the above, changes in the register were caused by recoveries and movements into and out of the district.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Transfers in	4	2	1	0
Transfers Out	4	3	0	0
Recoveries	4	6	0	0

Preventive measures to limit the spread of this disease include the examination of all close contacts of cases, mass radiography of the adult population in limited areas and the special testing and vaccination of school children in their 14th year. In addition contacts of known cases of tuberculosis were given B.C.G. Vaccine.

648 School children in their 14th year were tested and 93.4% were found to have had no previous contact with tuberculosis infection. 605 of the children were given B.C.G. Vaccine.

205 Children and school staff were X-rayed. Two children were found to have old inactive infections for which no treatment was necessary.

ACCIDENTS IN AND AROUND THE HOME

The Committee has continued to meet and discuss ways and means of preventing home accidents. There are many difficulties to be surmounted including the primary one of ascertaining the number of accidents and how they occur.

It is considered that our best way to proceed is to adopt the same procedure as with road accidents and to make the children conscious of the danger from their earliest years.

This is being done by having talks in schools by Health Visitors, by appointing children as Home Safety Officers, giving them a little booklet on accident prevention and by having ample publicity material.

The parents are approached through posters and lectures at meetings of various organisations. An exhibition was held at the clinic and a film show given.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (Including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. in Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities		32	32	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority		187	89	8	-
(3) Other premises in which sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)		10	10	-	-
		<u>229</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	15	7	-	7	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

	Section 110			Section 111		Prosecutions.
	No. of Outworkers in Aug. list	No. of cases of default in sending list to Council	No. of Prosecutions	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises.	Notices Served	
<u>Wearing Apparel</u>						
A. Making of etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
B. Cleaning and washing of	-	-	-	-	-	-

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1961

To the Chairman and Members of the St. Austell Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my
twenty-fourth Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1961.

A total of 7,493 visits were made by
your Inspectors during the year. The majority of these visits were made in
carrying out their Statutory duties under the Public Health, Housing, Food
and Drugs Acts and Regulations.

I HOUSING

Visits to, and inspections of, houses,
occupied a great deal of time.

A. SLUM CLEARANCE

25 Houses were represented to the Council
as being unfit for human habitation and 13 of these houses were
included in 5 Clearance Orders which were submitted to the Minister
of Housing and Local Government for confirmation. 5 Demolition and
2 Closing Orders were made and 5 undertakings not to relet were
accepted.

6 Houses subject to Demolition Orders
and 5 houses, in respect of which undertakings not to relet had
been accepted, were demolished by the owners.

B. CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

4 Applications for Certificates were
received but when the landlords were informed of the Council's
intention to issue the Certificates, 2 undertakings to remedy the
disrepair were submitted and accepted and only 2 Certificates of
Disrepair were issued.

2. MEAT INSPECTION

A considerable amount of your Inspectors time has been devoted to this important aspect of their work. In order to maintain 100% inspection of all carcasses and offal of animals slaughtered, it has been necessary, once again, to work during the evenings of each weekday and every Sunday throughout the year.

The Council's report on existing and future slaughterhouse facilities was accepted by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the appointed day was fixed for the 1st October, 1961.

This meant that all existing slaughterhouse premises has to comply with the requirements of the Construction Regulations before the licences could be renewed. In view of the amount of work and expense involved in bringing their premises up to date, three slaughterhouse occupiers decided not to proceed with their modernisation schemes. There were four slaughterhouses operating in the district at the end of the year.

A total of 16,143 animals were slaughtered during the year. This is a decrease of 6,857 on the previous year and was due to the fact that the largest abattoir in the district reduced its 'export' trade in pigs.

1,353 Visits were paid to the slaughterhouses in the district when the following carcasses (and Offal) were inspected :-

<u>BOVINE</u>	2996
a) Steers	1 664
b) Heifers	519
c) Cows	281
d) Calves	531
e) Bulls	1
<u>SHEEP</u>	5572
<u>PIGS</u>	7575
	<hr/>
	16,143
	<hr/>

The following table shows the comparison between 1959, 1960 and 1961.

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
<u>BOVINE</u>	2,572	2,617	2,996
a) Steers	1,552	1,492	1,664
b) Heifers	509	576	519
c) Cows	423	404	281
d) Calves	82	145	531
e) Bulls	6	0	1
 <u>SHEEP</u>	 7,902	 5,470	 5,572
 PIGS	 12,786	 14,913	 7,575
	<hr/> 23,260 <hr/>	<hr/> 23,000 <hr/>	<hr/> 16,143 <hr/>

As a result of these inspections the following were condemned as being unfit for human consumption :-

118 Bovine Livers	Distomatosis
219 Bovine Part Livers	Distomatosis
24 Bovine Livers	Angiomatosis
1 Bovine Part Liver	Abscesses
36 Bovine Part Livers	Cirrhosis
18 Bovine Heads and tongues	Actinomycosis
5 Bovine Heads and tongues	Actinobacillosis
16 Sets of Bovine Lungs	Abscesses
4 Bovine Hearts	Pericarditis
1 Bovine Heart	Degenerated C.Bovis Cyst
2 Bovine Heads and Tongues	Localised Tuberculosis
1 Bovine Heart	Hydatid Cysts
2 Casualty Cow Carcasses and all offal	Fevered and severe bruising
1 Casualty Cow Carcase and all offal	Septicaemia
2 Casualty Cow Carcasses and all offal	Fevered and blood extravasations
1 Casualty steer Carcase and all offal	Pleurisy and pyaemia
1 Casualty steer Carcase and all offal	Johnnes disease
1 Casualty Heifer Carcase and all offal	Gangrene and fevered
1 Casualty calf Carcase and all offal	Immaturity
2 Casualty calf Carcasses and all offal	Pneumonia
1 Calf Pluck	Pneumonia
1 Stomach and intestines of Casualty Steer	Peritonitis
56 lbs hind leg of beef	Severe bruising
158 lbs hind leg of beef	Bone taint
37 lbs flank and sternum of Casualty Cow Carcase	Severe Bruising

70 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis
102 Pigs Plucks	Pleurisy with adhesions
11 Pigs Hearts	Pericarditis
1 Sows Head	Tuberculosis
4 Sets of pigs lungs	Pneumonia
8 Pigs Livers	Milk Spot
1 Pig Kidney	Hydronephrosis
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Generalised tuberculosis
4 Casualty pig Carcases and all offal	Peritonitis and fevered.
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Septic Pericarditis
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Septicaemia
10 lbs Shoulder of Pork	Acute inflammation
15 lbs Hind leg of pork	Abscesses
27 lbs Hind leg of pork	Severe bruising
2 Ewe Carcases and all offal	Fevered and emaciated.
1 Sheep Carcase and all offal	Septic Pleurisy
1 Casualty Sheep Carcase and all offal	Septic metritis
2 Sheep Carcases and all offal	Fevered and emaciated
10 Sheep plucks	Pneumonia
14 Sheep Livers	Distomatosis
4 Sheep Plucks	Strongylus Rufescens
4 lbs flank of Casualty Sheep	Severe Bruising

3. THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

There were 29 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

4. OTHER FOODS

Numerous routine visits were paid to wholesale and retail premises for the examination of foodstuffs and as a result the following were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

1440 Tins of fruit	}	Damaged, Leaking, Blown and Broken
888 Tins of vegetables		
683 Tins of meat		
153 Tins of milk		
79 Tins of fish		
89 Tins of soup		
144 Tins of rice pudding		
170 Jars and tins of jam		
26 Tins of orange juice		
92 Packets of biscuits		
28 Bottles of sauce	}	Damp and unsaleable
22 lbs of Sultanas		Cracked and Broken
32 lbs of Bacon		Mouldy
3 Packets of mellow creams		Decomposing
		Split

69 Packets of lemon creams	Split
2 lbs of Butter	Rancid
3 Packets of salt	Damp and unsaleable

5. FISH INSPECTION

During the year 639 quarter-casks of pickled pilchards, 3,390 lbs of crayfish, 950 lbs of crawfish, 2,400 lbs of Hen Crabs and 340 lbs of Lobsters were exported from Mevagissey to the Continent.

As a result of routine visits to wholesale and retail fish merchants, the following were condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

2 Stone shelf codling	}	Decomposing
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stone cod fillets		
9 Stone whiting		
1 Stone smoked haddock		
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stone hake fillets		
4 Stone Cod		
8 Stone pilchards		
6 Stone ling		
2 Stone conger eel		
1 Stone bream fillets		
2 Stone coley fillets		
3 Stone lemon sole fillets		
1 Stone haddock cutlets		
2 Stone smoked haddock fillets		

6. ICE CREAM

A total of 30 samples of ice-cream were collected and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results of these tests were as follows :-

Provisional Grade I	25
" II	5
" III	0
" IV	0

Table for comparison with previous years.

	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV
1959	87.5%	12.5.	0.0%	0.0%
1960	90.0%	7.5%	2.5%	0.0%
1961	83.0%	17.0%	0.0%	0.0%

During the year 8 premises were registered for the storage and retail sale of ice-cream making a total of 163 registered premises within the Urban District.

7. CAMPING SITES

44 Licences in respect of 65 residential and 885 holiday caravans were granted by the Council during the year. These were in addition to the 12 licences granted in respect of 48 residential and 45 holiday caravans during the previous year and which were valid throughout 1961.

It is interesting to note that not a single appeal was made against the conditions attached to all the licences issued.

Of the 41 licences issued in respect of residential sites, 34 were in respect of individual caravan sites, and there is no doubt as to the popularity of the caravan as a permanent home.

8. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

The destruction of rats and mice continued throughout the year.

Warfarin was used as the chief rodenticide but zinc phosphide was employed on refuse tips, sewage works and sewers.

551 Properties were inspected or surveyed and 519 were found to be infested with rats or mice. All of these infestations were cleared up by normal treatment methods.

The public sewers of the district were test baited during April and November and only 42 complete or partial takes were recorded which indicated that the rat population of the sewers was of very limited numbers.

<u>Manholes</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>November</u>
1. Testbaited	122	131
2. Bait taken	24	18

9. WATER SUPPLIES

Of the 79 samples obtained from mains supplies 24 were unsatisfactory and of the 122 samples obtained from private supplies 38 were unsatisfactory.

In all cases where the results were unsatisfactory the consumers were advised to boil the water before using it for drinking purposes.

10. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

59 Applications for Discretionary and 33 for Standard Grants were received and 52 and 29, respectively, were approved.

Improvements in respect of 83 approved applications were completed and the Council contributed £15,505 towards the cost of the work involved.

The Council is to be congratulated in its foresight in continuing to encourage house owners to improve their property with financial assistance.

11. STAFF

The Staff of Inspectors during the year consisted of myself, Mr. L.H.Sturtridge, Mr. C. F. Quantrell and Mr. J.Crowle, Pupil Assistant.

My congratulations to Mr. Crowle on obtaining the Diploma for Appointment as Public Health Inspector in England and Wales at his first attempt at the end of the year.

Mr. Sturtridge, who in October completed 25 years service in the Department was honoured by being appointed Chairman of the Cornwall Branch of the Public Health Inspectors' Association and is to be congratulated.

12 CONCLUSION

I would now take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their help and support given during the year, and also to Dr. Turner for his invaluable help and co-operation at all times. Also I would like to thank Mr. Saunders, Mr. King, my colleagues, Messrs Sturtridge and Quantrell and all members of the staff for their loyal co-operation and support.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES H. WATTS

Senior Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,
Truro Road,
ST. AUSTELL.

TABLE NO. 1.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICTVISITS

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
Waste Food Plants	-	-	22
Public Conveniences	-	-	3
Slaughterhouses	-	-	33
Water Supply	261	145	241
Drainage	861	859	1,515
Stables and Piggeries	11	16	14
Fried Fish Shops	18	13	17
Camping and Caravan Sites	114	282	212
Factories and Workshops	132	155	131
Workplaces	-	-	5
Theatres and places of entertainment	51	41	26
Licensed premises	8	10	3
Refuse disposal	43	24	40
Rats and mice destruction	51	72	55
Atmospheric pollution	9	16	0
Schools	8	12	7
Shops Act	50	49	19
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	101	143	196
Appointments and interviews	276	194	272
Petroleum Acts	211	111	81
Insect pests	2	-	15
Verminous premises	81	108	21
Bakehouses	28	38	15
Public Health Acts	544	539	558
Housing Acts	944	832	1,193
Infectious diseases	33	25	16
Swimming Pools	-	-	1
Sites	-	-	2
<u>Inspection of meat at :-</u>			
a) Slaughterhouses	1,847	1,710	1,353
b) Shops and Stalls	1	2	5
Butchers	166	141	55
Canteens	23	5	1
Dairies and milk distributors	114	111	73
Fishmongers and poulterers	207	238	151
Food preparing premises	191	226	145
Grocers	304	194	267
Greengrocers and fruiterers	249	277	317
Ice-cream premises	77	141	89
Restaurants	36	61	19
Wholesalers	52	107	39
Foodshops	22	-	34
<u>Sampling</u>			
a) Milk	115	64	1
b) Ice-cream	40	40	30
c) Water	221	132	201
	<u>7,574</u>	<u>7,115</u>	<u>7,493</u>

TABLE NO. 2.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

VERBAL, INFORMAL AND STATUTORY NOTICES

The following table shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisance and the removal of conditions dangerous and injurious to health :-

<u>Notices</u>	<u>No. Served</u>	<u>Complied with</u>	<u>Work done by the Council in default</u>
Verbal	79	53	-
Informal	167	161	-
Statutory	2	2	-

TABLE NO. 3.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND MISCELLANEOUS.

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
1. No. of Houses and premises re-drained	42	51	51
2. Repairs or amendments to existing drains	41	41	101
3. Drains or gullies unstopped and cleansed	50	84	36
4. Length in yards stoneware drains laid	525	666	1,940
5. Manholes provided	65	108	187
6. New Manhole covers	66	106	112
7. Intercepting traps fixed	3	18	12
8. New gully traps fixed	63	110	139
9. Soil pipes and vent shafts fixed	24	45	81
10. Soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	2	6	5
11. Water tests applied	11	31	16
12. Smoke tests applied	32	25	5
13. Length in yards iron drains laid	118	115	235
14. New W.C. accommodation provided	37	104	189
15. New W.C. apartments provided	18	37	50
16. New W.C. pedestals provided	38	109	119
17. W.C's. cleansed and repaired	14	23	12
18. New flushing cisterns provided	41	110	124
19. Flushing cisterns repaired	10	9	3
20. Baths provided	34	55	76
21. Lavatory basins provided	41	90	79
22. Sinks provided	45	58	64
23. New waste pipes provided	113	191	209
24. Existing waste-pipes trapped	2	2	2
25. Pail closets and/or middens abolished	4	14	53
26. Urinals provided	2	3	2
27. Septic tanks provided	5	10	18
28. Cesspools emptied	30	48	49

TABLE NO. 3. (Contd)

<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
1. New roofs provided	16	20	23
2. Chimney stacks repaired	53	38	32
3. Roofs repaired	55	45	48
4. Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	77	63	68
5. Rainwater pipes disconnected or repaired	65	65	53
6. Damp walls remedied	83	66	107
7. Ventilation under floors provided	5	-	1
8. Yards paved	27	30	26
9. Yards repaired	26	13	29
10. Floors of rooms repaired	44	58	63
11. Floors of rooms relaid	19	23	37
12. Rooms cleansed and redecorated	102	125	131
13. New windows provided	55	90	87
14. Windows repaired	69	57	50
15. Plaster of walls or ceiling repaired	186	221	233
16. Doors repaired or renewed	63	77	67
17. Ventilated food stores provided	27	48	62
18. Staircase provided or repaired	18	14	13
19. Water service pipes repaired	41	47	54
20. Dustbins provided	34	36	35
21. Nuisances - animals	7	6	8
22. Nuisances - refuse	30	22	12
23. Bakehouses cleansed	7	3	2
24. Cowsheds and dairies cleansed	-	-	-
25. Fish Fryers premises cleansed	4	1	1
26. Insufficient water supply remedied	22	24	20
27. Grates, ranges, coppers renewed or repaired	56	52	39
28. Rooms disinfected	1	4	1
29. Rooms disinested	8	9	2
30. Hot water supplies provided	-	-	43

TABLE NO. 4.

HOUSING

<u>1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
(A) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	244	200	559
(B) Number of visits made for the purpose	1,237	914	1,354
<u>2. Action under Statutory Powers during the year</u>			
(A) Proceedings under Section 9 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1957			
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-	-	3
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice			
a) By owners	2	-	1
b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	-	-	-

TABLE NO. 4. (Contd)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts	-	1	3
(C) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957	23	15	12
(D) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957			
(i) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-	-	-
3. <u>Housing Act, 1957 - Overcrowding</u>			
(a) Number of dwellings statutorily overcrowded at the end of the year	22	26	18
Number of families dwelling therein	36	39	28
Number of persons dwelling therein	120	131	90
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	15	11	8
(c) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	13	14	10
(d) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider to report		-	

TABLE NO. 5.

RENT ACT, 1957

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair received	1	4	4
Decisions not to issue	-	-	-
Decisions to issue in respect of			
a) Some defects	1	2	3
b) All defects	-	1	1
Undertakings received and accepted	1	3	2
Undertakings received and refused	-	-	-
Certificates of Disrepair issued	-	1	2

TABLE NO. 6.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

	Applications		Works Completed	Council's Contribution to cost £
	Received	Approved		
Discretionary	59	52	48	12,186
Standard	33	29	35	3,319
Total	92	81	83	15,505

TABLE NO. 7.

RODENT CONTROL

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (Including business premises)	Total of 1, 2 & 3
A. No. of properties inspected as a result of :-				
1. Notification	23	347	139	509
2. Survey under Act.	19	6	17	42
3. Otherwise				
B. Total inspections carried out including reinspections	83	1049	420	1552
C. No. of properties inspected (Sect.A.) which were found to be infested by				
1. Rats (Major)			1	1
(Minor)	24	338	129	491
2. Mice (Major)				
(Minor)		14	13	27
D. No. of infested properties (in Sect C. treated by L.A.	24	332	143	519

TABLE NO. 7. (Contd)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (including business premises)	Totals of 1, 2 & 3
E. Total Treatments carried out including retreatments	80	1025	420	1525
F. No. of Notices served under Section 4				
a) Treatment				
b) Structural Work				
G. No. of Block Treatments		24		

TABLE NO. 8.

THE CARAVAN SITES & CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

Licensed Sites	Caravans	
	Residential	Holiday
15	-	930
41	113	-
56	113	930

